

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for transferring electronic information, comprising:
receiving a command to transmit a portion of a file of electronic information; and
in response to the received command to transmit the portion of the file of electronic information, automatically copying the portion of the file of electronic information to create a copied file of electronic information, transmitting the copied file to an entity, and rendering the portion of the file of electronic information unusable, wherein the rendering step comprises erasing the portion of the file of electronic information.

2. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, comprising:
determining whether the portion of the file of electronic information should be automatically copied and rendered unusable.

3. (Original) A method according to Claim 2, wherein the determining step is based on an electronic tag associated with the portion of the file of electronic information.

4. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, further comprising:
determining that the portion of the file of electronic information has been rendered unusable; and
transmitting a certificate certifying that the portion of the file of electronic information has been rendered unusable.

5. (Original) A method according to Claim 4, wherein the file is received from an entity, and
wherein the certificate is transmitted to the entity.

6. (Original) A method according to Claim 4, wherein the certificate is transmitted to an owner of a copyright in the file of electronic information.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the electronic information comprises at least one of an image, text, multimedia, a movie, audio, music, software, news, weather, sports news, and data.

9. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of automatically copying comprises at least one of creating an electronic mail message, copying to electronic storage, copying to magnetic storage, and copying to optical storage.

10. (Currently amended) A method for providing a file of electronic information, comprising:
providing a file of electronic information;
receiving a copy of a portion of the file of electronic information; and
receiving a certificate certifying that the portion of the file of electronic information that has been copied has been rendered unusable, wherein the portion of the file of electronic information is erased in order to render the file unusable.

11. (Original) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the file is provided to a consumer in fulfillment of a subscription.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Original) A method according to Claim 10, further comprising providing the certificate to an owner of a copyright in the portion of the file of electronic information.

14. (Original) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the file of information comprises a tag indicating that the portion of the file should be rendered unusable if the portion of the file is copied.

15. (Original) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the electronic information comprises at least one of an image, text, multimedia, a movie, audio, music, software, news, weather, sports news, and data.

16-33. (Canceled)

34. (Original) A method according to Claim 1, wherein the portion of the file of electronic information is the entire file of electronic information.

35. (Original) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the portion of the file of electronic information is the entire file of electronic information.

36-40. (Canceled)